

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07380 101623Z

50

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 IGA-02 PRS-01 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 L-03 /082 W

----- 052376

R 101530Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1001

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 7380

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJECT: VISA PROBLEM PLAGUES AALC REPRESENTATIVE

REF: STATE 175496

SUMMARY: ONE-YEAR NIGERIAN ENTRY VISA FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN
LABOR CENTER REPRESENTATIVE JOHN GOULD DUE TO EXPIRE SEPT. 16.
GOULD, WHO IS DIRECTOR TRADE UNION INSTITUTE, HAS UNSUCCESSFULLY
ATTEMPTED TO HAVE VISA RENEWED. HE EXPECTED TO DEPART NIGERIA
SEPT. 14 UNLESS VISIT BY AALC DIRECTOR O'FARRELL CAN ALTER
SITUATION ENDSUMMARY

1. GOULD SAYS HE HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY INFORMED EITHER BY FMG
OR ULC AS TO REASONS FOR DELAY IN REMOVING HIS VISA. HE ADDS
SOME FRIENDS IN ULC HAVE INFORMED HIM ULC LEADERS NOT PUSHING
FOR RENEWAL, OR ARE ACTIVELY ADVISING FMG AGAINST RENEWAL,
BECAUSE ULC OFFICIALS ARE DISSATISFIED WITH GOULD. GOULD FEELS
THIS STEMS FROM HIS ALLEGED FAILURE TO PROVIDE TUI FUNDS FOR
DUBIOUS PROJECTS WHICH AFFECTED PERSONAL INTERESTS OF ULC
OFFICIALS. GOULD ALSO STATED TOP ULC OFFICIALS WERE RECENTLY
EMBARRASSED WHEN THEY HAD TO PUBLICLY ADMIT RECEIPT OF 5,000
NAIRA FROM TUI, MONEY THEY HAD FORMERLY DENIED RECEIVING
AND FOR WHICH THEY ARE UNABLE TO ACCOUNT PROPERLY. GOULD'S
PASSPORT WAS PICKED UP IN PAST FEW WEEKS BY FMG IMMIGRATION
OFFICIALS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07380 101623Z

2. IN PAST WEEK EMBASSY LABOR ASSISTANT HEARD OPEN DISCUSSION

IN ULC OFFICES OF EFFORTS TO KEEP GOULD FROM RECEIVING NEW VISA. ONE MID-LEVEL ULC OFFICIAL PRIVATELY CONFIRMED THIS TO LABOR ASSISTANT, SAYING ULC PLANS TO REQUEST AALC RECALL GOULD AS HE NO LONGER ENJOYS CONFIDENCE OF ULC LEADERS. ULC INTENDS ASK AALC TO DESIGNATE NEW TUI DIRECTOR. ACCORDING ULC SOURCE, ULC FEELINGS STEM FROM GOULDS FAILURE TO USE TUI FUNDS FOR ULC BADGES, HIS REFUSAL TO LEND FUNDS WITHOUT RECEIPT FOR NON-UNION ACTIVITIES, AND HIS EFFORTS IN HAVING FORMER TUI ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FIRED FOR MISUSE OF FUNDS. ULC ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY OKWESE IS SAID TO BE DRIVING FORCE IN EFFORT TO OUST GOULD.

3. SITUATION BECAME SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED MORNING SEPT. 8 WHEN TOP ULC OFFICIALS CALLED EMB LAB ASSISTANT TO COMPLAIN OF POSSIBLE EMB INVOLVEMENT IN AFFAIR. ULC PRESIDENT KALTUNGO SAID GOULD HAD CONFRONTED HIM THAT MORNING WITH DETAILS OF ULC PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN MOVE TO KEEP FMG FROM RENEWING HIS VISA. ACCORDING KALTUNGO, GOULD SAID HIS INFORMATION CAME FROM EMBASSY LABATT AND LABOR ASSISTANT. ULC LEADERS STATED EMBASSY SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED AND ULC DESIRED GOULD BE REMOVED FOR INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL ULC MATTERS. LABOR ASSISTANT ATTEMPTED WITH SOME SUCCESS TO CALM FEELINGS AGAINST EMBASSY, SAYING EMBASSY NOT INTERESTED IN INVOLVEMENT IN ULC AFFAIRS. ULC LEADERS THEN SENT OFFICIAL TO MINISTRY INTERIOR AND TO POLICE WITH ORDER IMMEDIATELY PICK UP GOULD'S PASSPORT WITHOUT NEW VISA SO GOULD COULD LEAVE NIGERIA.

4. COMMENT: LABATT DID DISCUSS SITUATION WITH GOULD, AS HE HAS ON OTHER OCCASIONS, BUT WITH UNDERSTANDING CONVERSATION WAS CONFIDENTIAL. GOULD OBVIOUSLY UPSET OVER WAY IN WHICH ULC FACTION HAS WORKED TO UNDERMINE HIM AND FAILURE TOP ULC OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT HIM. HE CLAIMS SOME MINOR HARASSMENT FROM POLICE, AND AT LEAST ONE BRIBE ATTEMPT. CONFRONTATION WITH KALTUNGO MAY HAVE BEEN LAST EFFORT TO SOLICIT SOME HIGH-LEVEL SUPPORT. GOULD'S REMARKS CAUSED SOME EMBARRASSMENT TO EMBASSY BUT SHOULD NOT RESULT IN MORE THAN TEMPORARY STRAIN IN RELATIONS WITH ULC.

5. GOULD WAS NOT AWARE PENDING ARRIVAL OF AALC DIRECTOR O'FARRELL (REFTEL). HE KNEW O'FARRELL PLANNING STOP-OVER IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 07380 101623Z

NIGERIA IN SEPTEMBER BUT HAD NO WORD ON DATES. IN VIEW HARDENED POSITIONS IN ULC AGAINST GOULD IT WOULD APPEAR TOP-LEVEL AALC VISIT IS UNLIKELY ALTER PRESENT SITUATION, AND GOULD WILL NOT GET VISA RENEWED.

6. ULC'S TREATMENT OF GOULD CALLS INTO QUESTION DESIRABILITY CONTINUED AALC FUNDING OF TUI. EMBASSY WILL COMMENT FURTHER ON THIS ASPECT FOLLOWING O'FARRELL VISIT.

REINHARDT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAGOS07380
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730946/aaaabhlc.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 175496
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISA PROBLEM PLAGUES AALC REPRESENTATIVE
TAGS: ELAB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005